

09/880,576

11998.5USC2

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests that this amendment should be entered because it accompanies a request for continued examination, with the appropriate fee.

Claims 18 and 32-35 remain pending in this application after entry of this amendment. Claims 19-31 were cancelled herein. Claim 18 was amended herein. Support for the amendment to claim 18 can be found at least at page 13, lines 17-24. Claims 32-35 were added herein. Support for the newly added claims 32 and 33 can be found at least at page 11, lines 13-14. Support for the newly added claim 34 can be found at least at page 11, lines 22-24. Support for the newly added claim 35 can be found at least at page 13, lines 3-10.

Drawing and Specification Objections

The Examiner objected to the amendment to the specification and drawings that were made in the August 7, 2003 amendment. Although Applicant does not necessarily agree that the material that was added therein was new matter, the amendments made to the drawings and the specification herein delete the matter objected to by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw these objections based on the amendments to the specification and drawings.

35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejection

Claims 18-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The Examiner asserts that the claims contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that the inventor, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Applicant has amended claim 18, and respectfully asserts that this objection is now rendered moot. As noted above, support for the amendments to claim 18 can be found at least at page 13, lines 17-24. Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn because, contrary to the Examiner's assertion, the specification does convey to one of skill in the art that the Applicant had possession of the claimed subject matter at the time of filing.

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35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Claims 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alferness '343 in view of Moore '900. Although Applicant does not agree with the Examiner's rejection, claims 20-22 have been deleted herein. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.


Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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